

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2005/06/09 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100220044-6

25X1

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AGE COI ACP TOG TPE MRO TRI

SCM 0 0 0 0 0 0

CLASSIFICATION

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/OCE

JWHIZWH 740311

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SOURCE REF:

ROUTING

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2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

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ITEM NO:

WH-5

DATE: 11 MARCH 1974

SUBJECT: POMPIDOU TRIP TO USSR

25X1

THERE IS NO EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT POMPIDOU'S VISIT TO THE USSR THIS WEEK WILL BE OTHER THAN ROUTINE, BUT THE FRENCH PRESIDENT HAS STRONG PERSONAL AND POLITICAL REASONS FOR HOPING TO BE ABLE TO PORTRAY THE TRIP AS A SUCCESS.

THE MERE FACT OF THE TRIP--LIKE THE MINI-SHUFFLE OF THE CABINET TEN DAYS AGO--IS PROBABLY INTENDED TO SUPPORT THE IMAGE OF A POMPIDOU STILL IN CHARGE IN FRANCE. ALTHOUGH LONG IN THE MILL, THE TRIP WAS FINALLY SCHEDULED ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO; THE REPEATED DELAYS HAD FOSTERED SOME OF THE RUMORS ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH.

THE PRESIDENT'S TALKS WILL--HE HOPES--ALSO SERVE THE GAULLISTS, WHO ARE INCREASINGLY WORRIED ABOUT MITTERRAND'S SOCIALIST-

DATE:
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State Department review completed

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COMMUNIST ALLIANCE AS A REAL CHALLENGE WHEN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS OCCUR. FRIENDLY TALKS WITH BREZHNEV WILL OFFSET SOME OF THE GROWING COMMUNIST CRITICISM THAT POMPIDOU'S GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN DRIFTING AWAY FROM THE "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH MOSCOW THAT HIS PREDECESSOR HAD BUILT. THE TALKS WILL ALSO OFFSET MITTERRAND'S COMING TRIP TO MOSCOW.

APART FROM THESE DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, POMPIDOU MAY SEE INTRINSIC MERIT IN TRYING TO REFURBISH THE "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" AT THIS TIME. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS INDICATIONS THAT PARIS HAS FELT THAT MOSCOW HAS NOT SATISFACTORILY ADHERED TO THE CONSULTATIVE MECHANISMS SET UP UNDER PAST AGREEMENTS. THE FRENCH WOULD ALSO SEE SOME REVIVIFICATION OF THEIR TIES WITH MOSCOW AS A PROPER RIPOSTE TO THE RECENT SHARP CRITICISM FROM WASHINGTON OF FRANCE'S ROLE IN THE STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND EUROPE.

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02-11-03

US EMBASSY

OFFICERS IN PARIS THAT FRANCE MIGHT ^{LE} ~~AND~~ FOR THE CONCLUSION OF AN ACCORD SIMILAR TO THE US-SOVIET AGREEMENT ON THE PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR. THE US EMBASSY HAS HAD NO OTHER CONFIRMATION OF THIS REPORT, BUT CONSIDERS IT CONCEIVABLE.

MOSCOW MAY NOT BE WILLING TO SIGN SUCH AN ACCORD. THE SOVIET VIEW IS THAT CONSULTATIONS ARE ALREADY QUITE ADEQUATE. IN HIS MEETING WITH FRENCH REPORTERS LAST WEEKEND, BREZHNEV MADE A POINT OF CITING HIS FIVE MEETINGS WITH POMPIDOU IN THE PAST THREE YEARS AS EVIDENCE OF HEALTHY CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: EUR DIV AND NIO

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